REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed December 28, 2007, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. Claims 1-42 were previously pending in this application. By this amendment, claims 1, 14, 21, 41 and 42 have been amended. Claims 1-42 are pending for examination with claims 1, 14, 21, 34, 41 and 42 being independent claims. No new matter has been added.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

All of the claims pending in this application have been rejected under 35 U.S.C.§102 as being anticipated by Nyman. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Though Nyman describes name conflicts in an ad hoc network, it describes an approach for dealing with name conflicts that is very different from the approach described in the present application. Nyman describes an automatic method for resolving name conflicts. In contrast, the present application describes user interactions for both reporting and resolving name conflicts. These differences are reflected in the claims.

For example, claim 1 recites a series of acts that are performed with a device. Specifically, act (a) recites "a name conflict indicator" displayed "on a first graphic user interface of a device." Act (b) recites information displayed on the device "in response to user input associated with the name conflict indicator." Act (c) recites input received "from a user of the device," and act (d) recites further characteristics of a graphic user interface "of the device."

In contrast, there is no indication in Nyman that a user of a device in which a naming conflict occurs is even informed of the conflict. Accordingly, there can be no indication in Nyman of user input in response to an indication of a conflict or display steps that occur based on such a user response.

The Office Action asserts that a name conflict indicator is described at paragraphs 39 and 91 and illustrated in FIG. 2B. However, none of these passages meets the limitations of the claim. Paragraph 39 refers to FIG. 1C, which is an interface through which a user of a device may identify himself or herself. As part of that identification, the user may specify alternative

names for himself. However, this action occurs in advance of a conflict being detected and paragraph 3a could not reasonably be interpreted as meeting the limitation of act (a) which recites displaying "a name conflict indicator" under a condition in which there is a first identity that is "different than at least one second identity with at least one second display name, the at least one second display name being equivalent to the first display name." FIG. 2B and paragraph 91, which describes FIG. 2B, similarly do not meet this limitations of claim 1. FIG. 2B illustrates an internal data structure maintained within the device. There is no indication that this table is displayed for a user. To the contrary, Nyman describes that information in the table is constructed by receiving ADD DEVICE messages and is used for automatically changing a display name if a conflict is detected.

The Office Action further asserts that the name message table of FIG. 2B meets the limitations of element (b) of claim 1, which relates to a user response to the displayed name conflict indicator. Because Nyman does not picture or describe displaying the message table of FIG. 2B, it provides no teaching on a user response to such a display. Nonetheless, the Office Action cites paragraph 105 as support for the assertion that Nyman describes a user response to the conflict indicator. Paragraph 105, proves the contrary, reinforcing that the information in that table is obtained in name distribution messages rather than in response to user input.

As to other limitations of claims 1, the Office Action asserts that "receiving input from a user of the device" and "identifying on a second graphic user interface of the device" are described in paragraphs 36 and 96 of Nyman and shown in FIG. 1 and FIG. 2B. As pointed out above, FIG. 2B is an internal data table that is not displayed. Paragraph 96 describes the result of processing an ADD DEVICE message that results in automatic selection of a display name. FIG. 1 and paragraph 36 relate to actions on a different device, undertaken by a different person, setting up that device, and cannot be regarded as actions taken based on user input given in response to a displayed conflict indicator. Thus, for multiple reasons, Nyman does not anticipate claim 1.

Independent claim 21 and 41 similarly recite limitations not shown or suggested in Nyman. For example, claim 21 recites "means for displaying…a name conflict indicator." The claim also recites "means responsive to user input associated with the name conflict indicator for

displaying on the device…" and "means for displaying user input from a user of the device
selecting an alternative display name…"

Independent claim 41 also recites limitations that distinguish over the reference. For
example, claim 41 recites "program code for displaying on a first graphic user interface of a
device, a name conflict indicator…" the claim further recite "program code operable in response
to user input associated with the name conflict indicator…" Claim 41 further recites "program
code for receiving user input from a user of the device selecting an alternative display name…"

For reasons that should be apparent from the foregoing discussion of Nyman, the
reference does not meet the limitations of any of these claims.

Independent claims 14, 34 and 42 similarly recites limitations that distinguish over
Nyman. For example, claim 14 recites "receiving from a user through a graphic user interface on
a display an indication of a selected contact with which to communicate…" and "presenting on
the display information constituting a warning to the user." In Nyman, no such warning is
presented on a display to a user. The Office Action asserts that these limitations are met by the
description in paragraphs 27 and 93 of Nyman. However, these passages describe that when a
person configures their own device, that person can specify which other user will be able to use
their chosen name to display an indication of their device. Applicants respectfully submit that
there is no reasonable interpretation of the claim or reference under which Nyman meets the
limitation of "presenting on the display information constituting a warning to the user" in
conjunction with the other limitations of the claims.

Independent claims 34 and 42 similarly recite limitations not shown or suggested in the
reference. For example, claim 34 recites "a mechanism that presents on the display information
constituting a warning to the user…" Claim 42 recites "program code for presenting on the
display information constituting a warning to the user. For reasons that should be apparent from
the foregoing description of Nyman, the reference does not meet the limitations of either claim.

The remaining claims depend from one of the independent claims, and should be allowed
for at least the same reasons. The dependent claims recite further limitations that distinguish
over the reference. For example, claim 8 recites "warning a user based on the security policy
when that user attempts to communicate with a contact having a predetermined authentication

level." As understood, Nyman discloses only hiding names of user who have not provided authorization for their names to appear visible to other users. Accordingly, no attempt to communicate with such users about name conflicts is described in the reference and the reference shows no warning, as claimed. As another example, claim 10 recites displaying a dialogue box having all display names that are equivalent. As noted above, Nyman describes that any equivalent names are automatically substituted and does not this limitation. Claim 12 recites displaying an authentication indicator. Nyman describes no such indicators. Claim 13 further recites that the authentication is unique to one of the authentication levels. None of these additional limitations are met by the reference.

Claims that depend from other independent claims similarly recite limitations that further distinguish the reference. For example, claim 16 recites that an administrator that sets a security policy that applies to a user. As described in Nyman, each user establishes their own visibility to other users. Claim 17 further recites further details of a warning when a user attempts to communicate with an unauthenticated non-certified contact.

Thus, for at least the forgoing reasons, the rejections should be withdrawn.
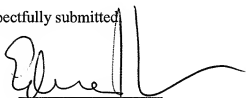
CONCLUSION

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Dated: Respectfully submitted,

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